

REMARKS

The present invention is a communication system. In accordance with a preferred embodiment, the communication system includes at least one ubiquitous sensor for sensing awareness data relating to a user as described for example on page 8, lines 21-24; a context engine 3 for receiving and processing said awareness data to determine the user's current context for the purpose of event handling; a policy engine 5 for receiving and relaying at least one permanent evidential indicator of an incoming event from a caller to said user's current context in response to selecting a preferred event handling feature; and a delivery agent CD for executing said preferred event handling feature.

The specification teaches the claimed relationship between the policy engine and selecting a preferred event handling feature. Page 9, lines 22-34 through page 10, lines 1-6, describe the operation between the context engine and the policy engine 5 including the context update block 9 as the policy engine receiving and relating at least one pertinent evidential indicator of an incoming event from a caller to a user's current contacts and then in response selects a preferred event handling feature. Indicators of an incoming event from a caller are described as evidence of relevance, urgency and importance of the call to the user and may be caller identity, role relationship between caller and called party, group or project membership, location of user, current state of called user, subject of the call and so on.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 11, 15 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Published Application 2002/0085701 (Parsons et al). The Examiner reasons with respect to claim 1, as follows:

In regards to claim 1, Parsons discloses a communication system (See Fig. 1 and office 100) comprising: at least one [ubiquitous] sensor (See Fig. 2 and presence system 112) for generating awareness data (e.g., current "presence context", such as at desk, campus room, at hotel, at home, at restaurant, etc.) relating to a user (See pg. 1, paragraph [0009]); a context engine (See Fig. 2 and context profile 206) for receiving and processing said awareness data to determine the user's current context for the purpose of event (e.g., call) handling (See pg. 2, paragraph [0030] and pg. 4, paragraph [0037]; a policy engine (See Fig. 2 and presence server 202) for receiving and relating at least one pertinent evidential indicator of an incoming event from a caller to said user's current context and in response selecting a preferred event handling feature (See pg. 3-4, paragraph [0036] and pg. 4, paragraph [0037]); and a delivery agent (See Fig. 2 and call control interface 212) for executing said preferred event handling feature (See pg. 4, paragraph [0038] and pg. 4, paragraph [0040]).

These grounds of rejection are traversed for the following reasons.

The Examiner asserts that the presence server 202 of Fig. 2 of Parsons et al is "for receiving and relating at least one pertinent evidential indicator of an incoming event from a caller to said user's context and in response, selecting a preferred event handler feature" with the Examiner relying upon paragraphs [0036] and [0037] of Parsons et al.

It is submitted that a person of ordinary skill in the art would not consider Parsons et al's presence server 202 to disclose the claimed "policy engine for receiving and relating at least one pertinent evidential indicator of an incoming event from a caller to said user's current context and in response selecting a preferred event handling feature". Paragraphs [0036] – [0037] do not describe the aforementioned subject matter of relating at least one pertinent evidential indicator of an incoming event from a caller to said user's current context and in response, selecting a preferred event handling feature. The handling of presence information about the called party is described as "the presence server 202 maintains in

presence information store 204 a current present state context for each user supported by the present system, which information can be indexed by user mail box number, for example." Further awareness clients 220 are described as "for receiving update of associated user presence information and maintaining the presence information store 204 accordingly" and context configuration clients 222 are described as "a plurality of user presence context configuration clients 222 for receiving associated user context profile configuration information while maintaining the context files store 206 accordingly." This information does not meet the aforementioned limitation.

Paragraph [0040] describes the communications application 208 controlling activities when incoming calls from users are received by a PBX 102. However, the handling of an incoming event from a caller as claimed is not disclosed in paragraph [0040] or elsewhere.

If the Examiner persists in the stated grounds of rejection, it is requested that he specifically point out on the record where a policy engine is found "for receiving and relating at least one pertinent evidential indicator of an incoming indicator event from a caller to said user's current context and in response selecting a preferred event handling feature."

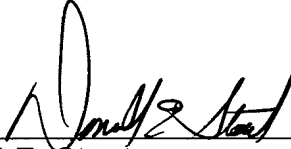
In view of the foregoing remarks, it is submitted that each of the claims in the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the

filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (1375.42977X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald E. Stout", is written over a horizontal line.

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DES:dlh